1. Peace negotiations are one of the most common ways of ending conflict.

2. A 'handshake moment' of a peace agreement between the main warring parties receives attention, but is only one moment in a longer peace process.

3. Most of these agreements deal with conflict within states. Some deal with conflicts between states.

4. If we count peace agreements, since 1990, there have been over 1500 signed in around 150 different peace processes over 35 years.

5. Increasingly conflict can be multi-level and requires multi-leveled peace processes.

Peace negotiations are one of the most common ways of ending conflict. Locations of peace processes around the world:

- Africa (excluding MENA): 53
- Asia & Pacific: 26
- Middle East & North Africa: 20
- Europe & Eurasia: 19
- Americas: 12
- Cross-regional: 9

Conflicts are also ended by one side ‘winning’ the conflict but even then negotiations and agreements may be needed to deal with its aftermath.

A 'handshake moment' of a peace agreement between the main warring parties receives attention, but is only one moment in a longer peace process. Processes seldom unfold in a straightforward line from violence to peace. Often talks are started, breakdown and restart.

Most of these agreements deal with conflict within states. Some deal with conflicts between states.

Breakdown of agreements by inter-state and intra-state:

- Intra-state: 96%
- Inter-state: 4%

If we count peace agreements, since 1990, there have been over 1500 signed in around 150 different peace processes over 35 years. These include agreements:

- to establish ceasefire
- to get into talks
- about how to resolve the conflict
- to implement previous agreements

Increasingly conflict can be multi-level and requires multi-leveled peace processes. Peace processes are becoming more complex, needing agreements that are: local; national; international.

Breakdown of agreement type by inter-state, intra-state and inter-intra-state:

- Inter-state: 82%
- Inter-state relating to inter-state conflict: 14%
- Intra-state: 4%

Many local agreements have been signed in: Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Libya, Yemen and Syria.
6. Multiple sequenced small steps tend to be the norm, rather than one giant strike towards ending military conflict.

Peace processes normally include 3 CEASEFIRES. There were 68 CEASEFIRES reached during the Bosnian conflict in 1992-1995 alone.

7. Even comprehensive deals can unravel

There have been 11 CASES SINCE THE COLD WAR where a comprehensive deal had to be revisited when fighting re-ignited, or because key groups had not been included.

See for example, Bosnia, Burundi, DRC, Somalia and South Sudan.

8. Inclusion makes peace more durable

There is mounting evidence that inclusion of a wider set of actors beyond the warring parties helps sustain peace across implementation 'bumps'.

9. International agreements:

206 international agreements address intra-state conflict (14% of all agreements)

States and international organisations involved in the Afghan Peace Process

Afghan Peace Process

International Organisations

Nation States

- Canada
- Egypt
- France
- Germany
- Italy
- Japan
- Norway
- Poland
- Spain
- Sweden
- United Kingdom
- United States
- ECO
- OSCE
- NATO
- Shanghai Cooperation
- SAARC
- OIC-OCI
- The European Union
- CICA
- United Nations

10. Commitments to including those involved in fighting in a new political settlement, may be in tension with a wider vision of inclusion.

11. Only 21% of agreements mention women or gender in some way.

Also, non-dominant minorities are rarely addressed in settlements, leaving them at risk of further exclusion.

This work draws upon PSRP publications: www.politicalsettlements.org
Data is from PA-X database: www.peaceagreements.org

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